

Hope Township Board Special Meeting  
Hope Township Hall  
December 13, 2022  
7:00 pm

**Board Members present**

Rita Goul, Supervisor  
Carol Coyle, Clerk  
Starleen Eddy, Treasurer  
Mary Letts, Trustee  
Daniel Mieske, Trustee  
*List with Clerk's copy*

**Visitors:**

**TOWNSHIP MEETING CALL TO ORDER:**

Township meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor, Rita Goul.

**Roll call of the Board Members:** *Dan Mieske Present, Mary Letts Present, Starleen Eddy Present, Carol Coyle Present, Rita Goul Present.* Quorum-Yes

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** Residents from Curtis Road were present and requested an update on the burned down house on their road. Supervisor Goul has been in contact with the Township Code Authority and the Township Attorney to get advice on the next step in getting the cleanup of the area completed.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Mary and supported by Starleen. All in Favor 5 Opposed 0 Motion Carried

**SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS:**

1. Rita wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. With an additional Happy Birthday to Rose Ann Trylch.
2. Rita reminded everyone about the Toys for Tots drop off box is in the Township Hall and toys may be dropped off on Mondays from 9-1:30 and Wednesday from 11:30-1:30.
3. The new list for committee appointment was presented. (copy in Clerk's office) Motion to accept the committee appointment as presented by Mary and supported by Starleen.  
All in Favor 5 Opposed 0 Motion Carried

**CLERK'S MINUTES:** The Board packets were distributed to all board members on Monday December 12th, 2022.

The minutes from November were taken by the Treasurer as the Clerk was overseeing the elections.

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Treasurer's financial report was presented with the ending bank balances as of November 30, 2022. Tax bills have been mailed. Bank reconciliation copies were provided in the Board packets. There are 4 outstanding checks in the pooled account. Asked the Park representative Starla Jordan if there was an update. Starla will contact Ann Shoffner to see if there has been any contact with the person.

Reported state revenue sharing of \$27,448.80. In addition, the local stabilization payment in the amount of \$7,421.27 has been received

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There were no point and pays for November.

Motion by Mary and seconded by Dan to **accept and file the Treasurers report as presented.**

*Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary, YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, and Rita YES --MOTION CARRIED.*

The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed. Needed corrections were noted. Motion to accept the minutes with all the corrections was made by Mary and supported by Dan. All in Favor 5  
Opposed 0 Motion Carried

ARPA update: The last ARPA meeting was held November 14th. Discussion on the 3 proposals for new cameras for the Chapel and Township Hall. The recommendation from the ARPA committee was to look into an alternative method of monitoring. Requesting up to \$500.00 for cameras was discussed. Tabled until next meeting.

#### **OUTSTANDING BILLS:**

The bills from the General Fund, Park Fund, Fire Fund, and Solid Waste were distributed earlier. Three additional bills were presented that were not on the list. One to Spicer Engineering, one to Midland County Treasurer and one to the Drain Commission.

Motion to approve payment of the bills by Starleen and supported by Mary.

*Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary, YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, and Rita YES --MOTION CARRIED.*

The Board members had been given the Expense/Budget report and there were no questions at this time.

The Board members had been given a copy of the “detailed payroll and liability” reports. No questions at this time.

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:** Brian Solomon reported things are quiet for now at the Fire Department and the year-to-date totals are below last years numbers and that is ok with him. In addition, Brian is hopeful to receive a grant from the county that will provide a new life saving device to the Fire Department. Brian will need to do a budget adjustment for maintenance on the trucks as new tires are needed for one of the vehicles. Carol stated she is available to do budgets adjustments prior to the January meeting when the other budget adjustments will be presented to the Board.

**PARK COMMISSION:** David was not present and those present had nothing to report. Rita stated she had received a note from David about damage to the Park grounds. Also asked if the camera video has been reviewed? Not at this time. Starla offered to assist David with the reviewing the tape. Brian Solomon asked if a police report had been filed. Not at this time. Rita encouraged Starla to have a report filed. She will get with David on that issue. Rita stated that Carol had sent her, David and Starla information on the SPARK grant. There is a possibility of a minimum of \$100,000.00 to update/upgrade recreational sites within the Township. Starla said she had received this information. At this time, Starla doesn't have the time to apply for this grant and offered this up to anyone else that wants to do the

work. A resident questioned why the cameras were not being looked at to see who did the damage at the Park and encouraged a police report to be filed. An additional question was raised about the damage by pellet guns and if anything was seen on the camera footage and if a police report was filed. Not at this time. Another resident asked if the Park was happy with the “select cut” of the woods and wanted it noted she was unhappy with how it looks. Questions on the plans to allow wood cutting in the woods. Starla updated the Board there is a waiver in place for people to cut and remove wood. After discussion, the Board asked the woods be closed until spring when a plan can be put in place for monitoring the removal of the wood. Starla will remove and update the notice on Facebook.

**PLANNING:** No one present to give a report.

**CHAPEL/CEMETERY:** Floyd stated nothing new to report other than the new flooring in the entry way and bathroom in the Chapel. Floyd thanked Carol for getting that coordinated. On another note, Floyd and Rita will put together a presentation on the Titanic on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. This will take place at the Township Hall. Seating is limited to 85 people. Get your reservations in early to Floyd.

**TOWNSHIP CODE AUTHORITY:** Dan was present and stated there were 3 total permits for November, 1 Building and 2 Electrical. The next meeting will be December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 5:00 at the County building. The Township Code Authority office will be closed on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>.

**WIXOM LAKE ASSOCIATION:** No one present.

**ROAD ADVISORY COMMISSION:** Dan Mieske reported he and Art Buck spent time on Hicks Road and took samples to see what the road should look like by next summer after it has had a chance to dry and pack down. Next meeting will be January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:00 pm at the Township Hall. All are encouraged to attend.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. FOIA update: 2 new FOIA requests have been answered and waiting for a response from the senders.
2. Audit report: The audit report has been sent to the USDA. This is required yearly to maintain the Water Grant.
3. Election Update: Thank you to all election workers. Hope Township was NOT involved in the state audit/recount for proposals 2 and 3. The recount was done at the Midland County Building for the entire state on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Still waiting on the results.
4. Tree Removal for the 2 downed trees at the Old Cemetery: There were 3 bids presented for the removal. Motion by Rita and supported by Starleen to use Dan Andrick to remove the two trees.  
*Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary, YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, and Rita YES --MOTION CARRIED.*
5. Chapel flooring discussed earlier. Carol thanked the Board and ARPA committee for the approval of this project.

6. Republic update: The Township received a credit for a charge on the dumpster at the Chapel. A credit for the fuel recovery charge for November was given as the letter for the charge was sent to the wrong address. This has been corrected in Republic's system.
7. Electric Franchise with Consumers Electric: A copy of the Franchise agreement was presented to the Board. The renewal is due by May 1, 2023. There were NO changes from the existing ordinance. A motion to accept the Electric Ordinance with Consumers Energy was made by Starleen and supported by Mary. *Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary, YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, and Rita YES --MOTION CARRIED.*
8. Asset Foreclosure Report: The State of Michigan requires a report to be filed yearly if there was any property seized due to illegal activity. The Township does not have a police department. Therefore, there is nothing to report.
9. AED request: Carol presented information on 3 AEDs for the Township Hall. With the hall being a Red Cross center, it would be advantageous to have an AED. Discussion and questions answered. A motion to approve up to \$2000.00 for the purchase of an AED was made by Mary and supported by Dan. *Roll call vote: Dan YES, Mary, YES, Starleen YES, Carol YES, and Rita YES --MOTION CARRIED.* Brian asked to have 2 purchased for the Fire Department.

Motion to adjourn by Rita and supported by Starleen. *All in Favor* 5 *Opposed* 0. Adjourned at 8:20pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Coyle